

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2743

INFO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASY WARSAW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

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SUBJECT: VE DAY

REFS: (A) BUCHAREST 2037; (B) PRAGUE 1149; (C) WARSAW 2903 (PARA3)

1. LEST CHARGES OF "LOCALITIS" BE PREFERRED, EMB BUCHAREST REFRAINED FROM INCLUDING IN PARA THREE REF A FULLER DETAILS IN SUPPORT OF GOR'S JUSTIFIED COMPLAINT THAT SOME PEOPLE DO NOT GIVE ROMANIANS SUFFICIENT CREDIT FOR CONTRIBUTION TO ALLIED VICTORY IN WW TWO. NOW THAT PRAGUE HAS USEFULLY RAISED ISSUE AGAIN (REF B), HOWEVER, WE CAN ONLY ADD THAT ROMANIAN MEDIA IN PRE-VE PERIOD WAS AT PAIN TO MASSIVELY UNDERLINE (PRESUMABLY FOR MOSCOW AND ITS CLIENT CAPITALS) THAT ROMANIA, IN NINE MONTHS (1944-45) LOST 170,000 MEN KILLED, WOUNDED OR MISSING AGAINST NAZIS IN ROMANIA, HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, AND AUSTRIA. IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA ALONE, TO GREAT EXTENT IN ROUGH HILLY FIGHTING, ROMANIAN ARMY LIBERATED 1722 LOCALITIES, INCLUDING 31 CITIES AND TOWNS, TOOK MORE THAN 20,500 PRISONERS, AND SUFFERED 66,500 KILLED, WOUNDED OR MISSING, ACCORDING TO COS COMAN (LUMEA, APRIL 10). IN ENTIRE NINE MONTHS ROMANIANS CAUSED GERMANS AND HUNGARIANS

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136,000 KILLED OR CAPTURED, EQUIVALENT OF 14 DIVISIONS, AND

CAPTURED 222 PLANES, 438 SHIPS AND RIVER CRAFT, "THOUSANDS" OF
TANKS, VEHICLES, AND OTHER WEAPONS AND RELATED
AMMUNITION. ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION TO ALLIED CAUSE WAS ONE BILLION
1938 DOLLARS. 300,000 MILITARY DECORATIONS WERE AWARDED TO
ROMANIAN SOLDIERS BY SOVIETS, CZECHS AND HUNGARIANS, WHOSE
PUBLIC RECOGNITION OF ROMANIAN ROLE HAS LATELY BEEN
GRUDGING AT BEST.

2. LEST THERE BE ANY DOUBT IN OUR CHANCERIES IN WARSAW AND
PRAGUE, NONE OF THE FOREGOING RECITATION IS INTENDED
TO SUGGEST THAT ROMANIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE OVERALL WAR
EFFORT WAS NEARLY AS GREAT AS POLAND'S. MAYBE SOME
ROMANIANS HAVE A STOMACH FOR SUCH AN ARGUMENT, BUT WE
DON'T. PEACE.
VIETS

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